

ARKANSAS SUPREME COURT

No. CR 07-1039

GREGORY HARRIS
Appellant

v.

STATE OF ARKANSAS
Appellee

Opinion Delivered March 13, 2008

PRO SE APPEAL FROM THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF PULASKI COUNTY, CR
2005-2016, HON. CHRIS PIAZZA,
JUDGE

AFFIRMED.

PER CURIAM

In 2006, appellant Gregory Harris was found guilty by a jury of residential burglary and sentenced to 480 months' imprisonment. The Arkansas Court of Appeals affirmed. *Harris v. State*, CACR 06-1246 (Ark. App. May 16, 2007). Subsequently, appellant timely filed in the trial court a pro se petition pursuant to Ark. R. Crim. P. 37.1. The trial court denied the petition and appellant has lodged a pro se appeal here of that order.

Appellant did not file a petition upon which relief could be granted because the petition was not properly verified in accordance with Criminal Procedure Rule 37.1(d). *Morris v. State*, 365 Ark. 217, 226 S.W.3d 790 (2006) (per curiam). Here, appellant's petition completely lacked a verification statement. The verification requirement for a petition is of substantive importance to prevent perjury, and in order to serve this purpose, a petitioner must execute the verification. *Collins v. State*, 365 Ark. 411, 231 S.W.3d 717 (2006); *Boyle v. State*, 362 Ark. 248, 208 S.W.3d 134 (2005) (per curiam).

Because the petition was not verified as required by Rule 37.1(d), denial of the petition was

appropriate. Accordingly, we affirm the trial court's denial of postconviction relief.

Affirmed.